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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

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INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: GERMAN VIEW ON VERIFICATION LANGUAGE

REFS: (A) USNATO 6526, (B) USNATO 6371, (C)USNATO 6531

1. IN A MEETING ON NOVEMBER 26 WITH
FONOFF MBFR VERIFICATION OFFICE DIRECTOR HAUBER AND
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GRUENDEL, THE GERMAN VIEW ON THE PRESENT
VERIFICATION GUIDANCE ANGUAGE PROBLEM WAS PRESENTED TO
EMBOFF. THE FRG ARGUMENTS ECHOED THOSE PREVIOUSLY
MADE IN BRUSSELS (REFTELS A AND B). THE HEART OF THE
GERMAN POSITION IS THAT NOTHING NEW SHOULD BE SAID N
VIENNA NOW ON VERIFICATION, AND THE WESTERN POSITION ON
BOTH VERIFICATION AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES SHOULD BE
REPEATED BASED UPON THE WESTERN MARCH 14 PLENARY STATE-
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2. WE WERE INFORMED THAT A US-FRG CONVERSATION N

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BRUSSELS HAD BEEN HELD IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP COMPROMISE LANGUAGE. OUR SOURCES STATED THAT IF A NEW FORMULATION WAS REQUIRED, THE FRG WAS PREPARED TO AGREE TO ONE. OF THE TWO DRAFT ALTERNATIVE STATEMENTS DEVELOPED, THE GERMANS PREFER THE SECOND WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: "STATE THE CONCEPT THAT OBSERVERS WOULD MONITOR THAT THE FORCE ELEMENTS SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST PHASE REDUCTION AGREEMENT ARE WITHDRAWN AND NOT REPLACED." THE GERMANS INDICATED THAT POINTS TWO AND THREE IN THE U.S. DRAFT SET FORTH IN PARA 7, REF B ARE SATISFACTORY. THE FRG REP IN BRUSSELS REPORTED TO BONN THAT THE U.S. PREFERS ALTERNATIVE NUMBER ONE (THE WORDING OF WHICH WE DID NOT RECEIVE VERBATIM). MOREOVER, IT WAS SAID THE U.S. REP OBJECTED TO THE WORD "REPLACED" IN ALTERHATIVE NUMBER TWO, IMPLYING THAT THIS TENDED TO PREJUDGE THE QUESTION OF FIXED EXIT - ENTRY POINTS. OUR FONOFF SOURCES BELIEVE THAT THS OBJECTION IS READING A LOT INTO ONE WORD, BUT THEY ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER ANY ALTERNATIVE WORD WHICH THE U.S. MIGHT WISH TO SUGGEST TO REPLACE IT.

3. THE FRG BELIEVES THAT THE ALTERNATIVE TWO LANGUAGE IS SUFFICIENT TO DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF MONITORING THAT MAY BE REQUIRED IN FIRST PHASE REDUCTIONS. THE GERMANS STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO HINTS IN THE LANGUAGE ABOUT MOBILE TEAMS, BUT THAT THE QUESTION SHOULD BE LEFT COMPLETELY OPEN. THEY BELIEVE THAT A SATISFACTORY NEUTRAL FORMULATION HAS BEEN FOUND, AND THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO THE EAST IN VIENNA AT THIS STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. SHOULD THE U.S. NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE ALTERNATIVE TWO LANGUAGE, OUR SOURCES SAID THE FRG WOULD HAVE TO RETURN TO EARLIER LANGUAGE SUCH AS "TO MONITOR THE COMPLIANCE WITH THE REDUCTIONS AGREEMENT."

4. COMMENT: AS SET FORTH IN PARA 5, REFTEL C, THE EMBASSY ENDORSES THE VIEW THAT THIS IS NOT THE ISSUE ON WHICH TO PRESS THE GERMANS. THE GERMANS MAKE THE POINT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOT MOVED FAR ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY THE WEST IN PRESENTING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ABOUT

HOW AN MBFR AGREEMENT IS TO BE VERIFIED. AS THE NATURE OF THE FIRST PHASE REDUCTIONS AGREEMENT BECOMES CLEARER, THE U.S. MIGHT THEN HAVE TO SEEK GERMAN AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT SPECIFIC VERIFICATION PROCEDURES WHICH MAY BE POLITICALLY UNPALATABLE IN THE FRG. HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME, WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES AGREE TO THE ALTERNATIVE TWO LANGUAGE IN THE INTEREST OF RESOLVING THE GUIDANCE ISSUE AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS

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POSSIBLE. END COMMENT
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